

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 076340  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:OSG  
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MR. DRAPER  
NEA/RA:JRCHEEK  
NEA:EABINGTON  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
NEA DISTRIBUTION ONLY  
-----060214Z 076403 /61  
O 060137Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076340

STADIS/////////  
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM NEA/ARN DRAPER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, JO, US

SUBJECT: COBRA WITH TOW FOR JORDAN

REF: AMMAN 1876

1. YOU ARE CORRECT THAT THE COBRA WITH TOW WAS INCORPORATED WITH A HOST OF OTHER MILITARY SALES CASES--FMS AND COMMERCIAL--AND SENT TO THE WHITE HOUSE FOR REVIEW. WE POUCHED TO YOU SOME TEN DAYS AGO A DESCRIPTION OF THE WHITE HOUSE DECISION ON THESE MATTERS, WHICH INTER ALIA APPROVED SOME CASES (E.G. HAWK TRAINING) AND PUT A "HOLD" ON OTHERS (E.G. THE S P HOWITZER FOR JORDAN).

2. THE "HOLD" WILL REMAIN UNTIL A PRM ON WORLDWIDE MILITARY SUPPLY POLICIES IS EXAMINED AND DECIDED UPON. THE PRM FOR THIS SUBJECT IS ON SCHEDULE, AND BASIC DECISIONS MAY BE HAMMERED OUT IN THE APRIL 15-MAY 1 PERIOD. KEY QUESTIONS SUCH AS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ARMS EXPORT CONTROL BOARD AND ITS ROLE RE INDIVIDUAL ARMS TRANSFERS WILL HAVE TO BE TACKLED.

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3. ONCE THE PRM EXERCISE IS FINISHED, THE BALL PRESUMABLY  
WILL BE IN THE DEPARTMENT'S COURT (WITH PM AND T PRIMARILY).  
A NEW MEMORANDUM TO THE WHITE HOUSE PROBABLY WILL BE SENT IN-

CORPORATING RECOMMENDATIONS ON ALL THE "HOLD" CASES IN THE  
LIGHT OF THE PRM CONCLUSIONS. IN VIEW OF YOUR RECOM-  
MENDATIONS REFTEL, IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE TO DROP THE  
COBRA WITH TOW CASE FROM ANY MEMO TO THE WHITE HOUSE. GIV-  
EN THE SAUDI DECISION TO GUARANTEE JORDAN'S 1976 FMS CREDIT  
PROGRAM, HOWEVER, WE WONDER WHETHER THE JORDANIANS WILL  
NOW DECIDE TO RAISE THEIR SIGHTS AND MAKE THE COBRA A LIVE  
ISSUE. WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO ASCERTAIN MORE ABOUT THIS IN  
THE JMC MEETING.

3. THERE IS STILL ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE NEA/ARN IS LEANING  
TOWARD. THIS WOULD BE TO INCORPORATE IN ANY MEMORANDUM  
TO THE WHITE HOUSE A NOTATION TO THE EFFECT THAT THE  
COBRA CASE IS NOT A LIVE AND PRESSING ISSUE AT THE MOMENT  
BUT THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE A WHITE HOUSE DETER-  
MINATION WHETHER OUR PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS TO JORDAN ON  
THIS EQUIPMENT SHOULD IN PRINCIPLE BE HONORED. AS YOU  
CAN APPRECIATE, EVEN A NEGATIVE WHITE HOUSE DECISION IN  
PRINCIPLE WOULD PROVIDE HELPFUL GUIDANCE, AND COMPEL US  
TO DECIDE HOW AND WHETHER WE SHOULD BEGIN CONDITIONING THE  
JORDANIANS AGAINST SUCH ACQUISITIONS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** MILITARY SALES  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** MASS, PFOR, JO, US  
**To:** AMMAN  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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